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SHANGHAI MERCURY, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1924.

THE WEEK'S POLITICS.

THE China New Year holiday has passed off peacefully, and the financial settlements have been more or less smoothly arranged.

Premier Sun Pao-chi was at one time reported to be intending a political trip to the various unsettled provinces to talk with the leading men as to ways and means of bringing about peace and unity. It is now stated, however, that he has abandoned that idea since he has received advices against it from both Marshal Wu Pei-fu and General Chi Hsieh-yuan, two leading military leaders of the Chihli Party. Before the China New Year there were many wild reports about the discordant relations between the Chihli and Mukden forces, and between Chekiang and Fukien. These rumours pointed to the danger of hostilities breaking out at any moment, though actually nothing happened. It was also reported before the holidays that Mr. Wang Keh-ming, the Minister of Finance, was to resign immediately, but he was advised not to do so, and did his best to settle accounts for the New Year Settlements. It is said, however, that he is once more considering resigning from his post, though President Tsao Kun is reported to be urging him not to do anything of the kind.

The most significant news item of the week is that a well-known

politician, who lived in Shanghai for many years and represented Dr. Sun Yat-sen here, has left the Settlement for good. He is said to have told his friends on his departure that the constitution in the South is nearly completed, though it has a few defects. He adds that the movement guarding the constitution should not be allowed to lapse, but as far as he is concerned his responsibility is at an end, and that owing to indisposition he will return to Tientsin, his native home, and rest. Another report states that his departure has no political significance. He has always advocated a peace parley between all the political influences in China, including the Chihli and Mukden parties, Dr. Sun Yat-sen's faction and Marshal Tuan Chih-jui's faction. It was for that purpose that he represented Dr. Sun at Shanghai. Latterly, he became rather estranged from his old friends in the Kuomintang by reason of his relationship with President Tsao Kun, and he was suspected of having a secret compact with Tsao. When these facts are remembered his departure from Shanghai takes on a deeper significance.

The general meeting of the various branches of the Kuomintang, held at Canton, was closed on January 30, when it was decided to include the following three points in the general statement issued: (1) The cancellation of all foreign concessions and settlements, (2) the placing of all foreigners who live in China under the laws of China, and (3) the use of the Boxer

indemnity, after arrangements with the Powers concerned for its return to China, for educational purposes in China.

The meeting elected twenty-four of its members as an executive committee, and appointed seventeen "expectant" committees and five auditors and five "expectant" auditors. The representatives have left Canton to return to their respective homes.

Further cases come to hand of foreigners being molested by bandits and assaulted by military officers. The life and property of the foreigner in China becomes more insecure every day. It is a pity the Powers are not adopting a firm policy towards these outrages.

That the new British Labour Government's decision to recognize Soviet Russia will greatly affect China is a misconception that should be speedily removed. The idea is in circulation that a Labour Government in England will be followed by a weak policy in China, but we may rest assured that so long as British lives and property are endangered in this country, the British Government will take all possible steps for the protection of its citizens. Lord Grey said the same thing when he was Secretary for Foreign Affairs during the first revolution, in his address to Lord Bryce, who was then British Ambassador at Washington, and it holds good to-day. Great Britain's policy has always been, and always will be, the protection of British lives and property in China, and a neutral attitude to all political factions.

Mi. Kuopao
Regtd. Jap. Cons.
8-2-24.

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12/2/24

The Kuomintang National Delegates' Conference held recently in Canton has issued a manifesto of which the following are the principal points:-

"The Chinese revolution had its inception in the year 1894; in the year 1900 the plans progressed most favourably; and in the year 1911 the revolution achieved success. 30 years ago foreign imperialism began to gain ground in China, the Manchu Dynasty being too weak to resist. The members of the Kuomintang Party, directed by their leader Sun Yat Sen, soon realized that reformation would be impossible in China unless the Manchu Dynasty was overthrown, and they began to work for the overthrow of the Manchu Regime. In the year 1911 success crowned their labour. The first opponent the Party had was Yuan Shih Kai. The Party could have easily beaten Yuan but for its solicitude for peace in China. After the death of Yuan Shih Kai the work of the Party still proved a failure and the militarists began to act recklessly, oppressing the people to the extreme limit. Knowing that they are disliked by the people the militarists got into touch with foreign imperialism in order to make their position firm. Foreign Powers took advantage of this to lend money to the militarists to enable them to create trouble in China thereby enabling the Powers to work profitably.

"There are at present in China many different parties.

(1) The Constitutional Party.
This Party believes that the only means to unify China is to have a well drafted constitution, but this is wrong because no matter how well the constitution might be drawn up it would have no effect on the militarists.

(2) Provincial Autonomy Party.
This Party is of the opinion that China has been in a state of disorder through the incompetence of the Central Government. They believe that better conditions would prevail in China if provincial autonomy is introduced.

(3) Peace Party.
In view of the incessant civil war in the country this Party has been endeavouring to maintain peace by convening a peace conference etc, but such a conference can hardly achieve any result.

(4) Merchants Government Party.
As the militarists are disliked by the people the merchants hope to represent the people but they can hardly do any good to the people as they themselves are also under the protection of foreigners.

The Kuomintang has for its objects the upholding of racial equality, the people's rights and the people's livelihood, and is therefore the only Party which is capable of saving the country.

Therefore, we must proceed vigorously with the work of organizing a Citizens' revolution. A full explanation of racial equality, the people's rights and the people's livelihood are then given.

Mingkuopao
Regtd. Jap. Cons.
8-2-24

As a result of the recent Kuomintang National Delegates' Conference held in Canton the following were elected members of the Executive Committee of the Kuomintang Party:-

Wu Han Min
Wang Ching Huai
Chang Zien Kiang
Lieu Chong Kai
Li Lieh Chun
Chu Ching
Tai Che Dau
Ling Sung
Pao Vun Hui
Zah Cheng Yang
Ting Vifung
Zah Ying
Tsu Loo
Tan Yi Kai
Tan Tsing
Tan Ping San
Yung Keh Wu
Li Shu Dzang
En Keh Pau Doo
Wong Pah Chen
Yu Yu Ning
Yang Sien Ming
Yih Tsao Chong
Yu Sze Tuh

The following were elected members of the Investigation Committee:

Dung Yih Sze
Wu Chi Huai
Li Zah Tsen
Uhang Chi
Ziar Chi

It was resolved at the Conference to send a telegram to Karahan, representative of Soviet Russia in Peking, thanking him for his telegram of congratulations

Shan...
Restd. in Fr. Cons.

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The Canton correspondent of the Kuo Wen News Agency writes on the 31st:-
In connection with the reorganization of the Kuomintang Party, representatives from various parts in the interior and abroad have arrived at Canton and attended the conference which was held from December 20 to December 30.

Amongst the matters passed by the conference the text of a manifesto was the most important one. It was amended three times. The manifesto deals with the objects of the Party and other matters.

The following three resolutions which were brought forward by Liao Chung Kai and passed by a conference over which Sun Yat Sen presided, are worthy of attention:-

- (1) That the title "Foreign Concessions" be abolished.
- (2) That all foreigners residing in China be subject to Chinese Law.
- (3) That the Boxer Indemnity ~~should~~ be used for the development of education.

As soon as the above resolutions were passed, certain representatives proposed that they should be added to the text of the manifesto but this was opposed by the other representatives.

After some discussion, the majority were in favour of adding them to the manifesto.

On the afternoon of December 31 the conference was continued. According to the regulations, the members of the Central Executive Committee of the Party were to have been elected, but in order to save trouble, this committee consisting of twenty-four persons was appointed by the Managing-Director (Sun Yat Sen) of the Party, who had also nominated seventeen candidates for the membership of the committee and five supervisors; there were also five other candidates for the office of supervisors.

The names of the committeemen are Wu Han Ming, Wang Ching Wei, Liao Chung Kai, Li Lieh Chun, Chu Cheng, Tai Kee Tao, Ling Sung, Pei Veng Wei, Tan Yen Kai, Yu Yue Ning, Yieh Tsho Tong and others.

The conference terminated at 3 p.m. with all those present bowing before the flag of the Party. Copies of Sun Yat Sen's photograph, a number of the Party's banners and a booklet dealing with the lives of the 72 Kuomintang killed during an attempted revolution in Canton during the Manchu dynasty were given all ~~the~~ representatives as souvenirs.

Sz Ka Siao Pao (世界小報) is published by the Little World, Chinese City, an amusement resort. It deals mainly with the features of entertainment to be found in the place.

1,200 copies are printed daily.

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